

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1, 4-11, and 16 are pending.

Applicant acknowledges that claims 3-11, 17, and 18 are indicated to contain allowable subject matter.

To expedite prosecution, claim 1 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 3 and intervening claim 2. As a result, claim 1 is also allowable. Claims 4, 5, and 8 are amended to depend from allowable claim 1.

Claims 12-15 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, Applicant reserving the right to file one or more continuing applications directed to the subject matter of the cancelled claims.

Claim 16 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 18, which was dependent on claims 16 and 17. As a result, claim 16 is allowable.

Remaining independent claims 1 and 16 now include subject matter deemed allowable by the Examiner, and all dependent claims depend from an allowable base claim. Therefore, all claims are allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance are deemed in order.

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To the extent necessary during prosecution, Applicant hereby requests any required extension of time not otherwise requested and hereby authorizes the Examiner to charge any required fees not otherwise provided for, including extension of time and extra claims fees, to Deposit Account No. 07-1337.

Respectfully submitted,

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